

Claims

1. (original) A nailcare device having a housing (1) and an electric motor-driven grinding body (4), which is seated on a drive shaft (10) connected to an electric motor (6) and is located in the upper part of the housing (1) under a covering (3, 21), which covering is attached, firmly seated but readily releasably, to the housing (1) of the device and has at least two slots (3a), at different radial spacings from the drive shaft (10), located as close as possible to the grinding body (4), for receiving the fingernail of the user, characterized in that the grinding body (4) is embodied as essentially discoid; and that the covering (3, 21), above the grinding body (4), is shaped such that the axial spacing between the top (4a) of the discoid grinding body (4) and the slots (3a), located on the covering (3, 21) at different radial spacings from the drive shaft (10), increases or decreases with increasing spacing from the drive shaft (10).

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2. (original) The nailcare device in accordance with claim 1, characterized in that the covering (3, 21) is dished in a slightly funnel-like fashion.

3. (original) The nailcare device in accordance with claim 1, characterized in that the covering (3, 21) is slightly conically arched.

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4. (currently amended) The nailcare device in accordance with ~~one of claims 1 through 3~~ claim 1, characterized in that the grinding body (4) is shaped slightly conically.

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5. (currently amended) The nailcare device in accordance with ~~one of claims 1 through 4~~ claim 1, characterized in that for nailcare, the device can be placed on a level surface and does not need to be guided or held with the other hand.

6. (original) The nailcare device in accordance with claim 5, characterized in

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that the bottom (2) of the device is embodied with a slip-proof base (2a) of rubber or plastic.

7. (currently amended) The nailcare device in accordance with claim 5 or 6, characterized in that the base (2a) of the device is embodied as a suction cup.

8. (currently amended) The nailcare device in accordance with ~~one of the foregoing claims~~ claim 1, characterized in that the slots (3a) are of different shape, width, and/or length.

9. (currently amended) The nailcare device in accordance with ~~one of the foregoing claims~~ claim 1, characterized in that a plurality of slots (3a), preferably in groups of two to four slots each, of the same and/or partly different shape, width, and/or length are located on the covering or plate (3, 21) at mutually offset radial spacings from the drive shaft (10), side by side above the grinding body (4).

10. (currently amended) The nailcare device in accordance with ~~one of the foregoing claims~~ claim 1, characterized in that a plurality of slots (3a) of the same and/or partly different shape, width, and/or length are located in groups of two to four, preferably three, slots (3a), parallel or arched in curved form, each at equal radial spacings from one another.

11. (currently amended) The nailcare device in accordance with ~~one of the foregoing claims~~ claim 1, characterized in that the individual groups of slots (3a) are distributed, each in approximately equal angular spacings of preferably approximately 90° or 120°, over the surface of the covering or plate (3, 21).

12. (currently amended) The nailcare device in accordance with ~~one of the foregoing claims~~ claim 1, characterized in that the grinding body (4) is secured releasably and interchangeably to the drive shaft (10).

13. (currently amended) The nailcare device in accordance with ~~one of the~~
~~foregoing claims~~ claim1, characterized in that the grinding body (4) is spring-
loaded relative to the housing body (1) and the covering or plate (3, 21), preferably
5 in the direction of the drive shaft (10), in such a way that it can escape an
excessively strong nail pressure.

14. (currently amended) The nailcare device in accordance with ~~one of the~~
~~foregoing claims~~ claim1, characterized in that at least one additional nail
10 manicuring option exists on the lateral circumference of the device, next to the
grinding body (4), with a rest (3c) for the fingertip and with a slot (3d), parallel to
the grinding body (4), for the fingernail.

15. (currently amended) The nailcare device in accordance with ~~one of the~~
15 ~~foregoing claims~~ claim1, characterized in that the electric motor (6) is
encapsulated against penetrating fingernail dust by a dust guard sheet (15)
between the drive shaft (10) and the side wall of the housing.

16. (currently amended) The nailcare device in accordance with ~~one of the~~
20 ~~foregoing claims~~ claim1, characterized in that the slots (3a) on the covering or
plate (3, 21) can be assigned fingernail templates (13, 13a), in the form of
interchangeable, differently shaped ramps for the fingertip to roll on, for special
shapes of nails.

25 17. (original) The nailcare device in accordance with claim 16, characterized in
that the fingernail templates (13) can be attached in slip-proof fashion to the
covering or plate (3, 21), preferably by terminal tabs (14, 14a), in receptacles (3b)
between slots (3a) located side by side.

30 18. (original) The nailcare device in accordance with claim 16, characterized in

that the fingernail template (13a) can be secured releasably to the covering or plate (3, 21) by means of a contact adhesive.

19. (currently amended) The nailcare device in accordance with ~~claims 16 and~~
5 ~~48-claim 16~~, characterized in that at least some of the slots (3a) on the covering or plate (3, 21) have a radial width such that by means of a rib (16) peripherally engaging the slot, and by means of a profiled ramp (17) oriented upward from the rib (16), fingernail templates (13a) adapted to the course of the slot come into contact with a self-adhesive securing strip (18), parallel to the top of the plate (3,
10 21) and oriented to the rear, directly beside the slot (3a).

20. (original) The nailcare device, in particular in accordance with claim 1, characterized in that the covering or plate (3, 21) is adjustable on the housing (1) at different axial spacings from the top of the grinding body (4).

15 21. (original) The nailcare device in accordance with claim 20, characterized in that the covering or plate (3, 21) can be firmly clamped at a variable axial spacing from the grinding body (4) by preferably three, radially outward-protruding bearing arms (25) distributed uniformly on the outer circumference, in graduated bearing
20 faces (24a, 24b, 24c), which are distributed uniformly, likewise at the spacing of the bearing arms (25), on the upper edge (22) of the housing (1), by means of a securing ring (20) that fits over the bearing arms (25).

22. (currently amended) The nailcare device in accordance with claim 20 ~~or~~
25 ~~24~~, characterized in that the bearing arms (25), like the graduated bearing and supporting faces (24a, 24b, 24c), are distributed on the housing relative to the housing circumference, preferably at angular intervals of 120° each.

23. (currently amended) The nailcare device in accordance with ~~one of claims~~
30 ~~20 through 22~~ claim 20, characterized in that the securing ring (20) can be firmly

clamped on the housing (1) by means of helical threads (24, 26), bayonet mounts, or by being clamped on.

24. (currently amended) The nailcare device in accordance with ~~one of the~~
5 ~~foregoing claims~~ claim1, characterized in that the axial spacing between the grinding body (4) and the covering or plate (3) is variable by means of a set screw (31) located centrally in a threaded bore (30) on the covering in an extension of the drive shaft (10).

10 25. (currently amended) The nailcare device in accordance with ~~one of the~~ ~~foregoing claims~~ claim1, characterized in that the grinding body (4) is embodied as a hollow body of rotation that is open at the bottom and is angled on its outer circumference in the direction of the drive shaft (10).

15 26. (original) The nailcare device in accordance with claim 25, characterized in that the grinding body (4) is angled on its outer circumference (4b) at an angle of approximately 45° to 90°.

20 27. (currently amended) The nailcare device in accordance with ~~one of the~~ ~~foregoing claims~~ claim1, characterized in that the grinding body (4) has an outer circumference (4b) that is arched in curved form.